

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 14 and 19 are presented for consideration. Claim 14 is the sole independent claim. Claim 14 has been amended to clarify features of the subject invention, while claim 19 has been added to recite additional features of the subject invention. Support for these changes and this claim can be found in the original application, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the Office Action dated May 5, 2005.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,340,558 to Kubota. Applicants submit that the cited art does not teach many features of the present invention, as previously recited in claim 14. Therefore, this rejection is respectfully traversed. Nevertheless, Applicants submit that independent claim 14, as presented, amplifies the distinctions between the present invention and the cited art.

Independent claim 14 recites a method of manufacturing a substrate having a fine line on a substrate face. The method includes a fine-line forming step of forming the fine line on the substrate face, in which a plurality of narrow-width portions is provided at an end portion of the fine line in a longitudinal direction, and the fine line is formed so that a width of the narrow-width portions in a parallel direction to the substrate face is smaller than a width of a portion adjacent to the narrow-width portions, and in a section of the fine line cut in the direction of a

normal line on the face forming the fine line on the substrate, the section comprises a part which is away from the substrate-side-end of the section, and a length of a part of the section in the parallel direction to the substrate face is longer than a length of the substrate-side-end of the section in the parallel direction to the substrate face. The fine-line forming step includes (i) a step of providing a photosensitive material onto the substrate, (ii) a step of projecting light from above the substrate onto a predetermined region on the photosensitive material, and (iii) a developing step after the step of projecting light.

Applicants submit that the cited art does not teach or suggest such features of the present invention, as recited in independent claim 14.

The Examiner considers the Kubota patent to teach a photoresist that is deposited using a spin coater to form a photoresist layer 20, with a substrate 12 being placed in a projection aligner and exposed through a reticle to transfer a pattern image to the photoresist, and, after exposure, the photoresist layer 20 is developed to form a pattern or mask layer 22. The Examiner further relies on Figure 5 of that patent for illustrating a photoresist pattern having an opening at a protruding portion, the protruding portion of the pattern (fine line) having a narrowed width portion at the end which is smaller than the width of the portion adjacent to the narrowed width portion.

Applicants submit, however, that the Kubota patent does not teach or suggest salient features of Applicants' present invention, as recited in independent claim 14, including a fine-line forming step of forming a fine line on a substrate surface, wherein a plurality of narrow-width portions is provided at an end portion of the fine line in a longitudinal direction, and the

fine line is formed so that a width of the narrow-width portions in a parallel direction to the substrate face is smaller than a width of the portion adjacent to the narrow-width portions.

Applicants further submit that the Kubota patent does not teach or suggest the salient features of Applicants' present invention, as recited in independent claim 14, including the particular arrangement of the section of the fine line, as recited in that claim, as well as the remaining features of the fine-line forming step cited in that claim. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the Kubota patent does not teach or suggest many features of the present invention, as recited in independent claim 14, such that the Kubota patent should not be considered to anticipate or render obvious Applicants' present invention, as recited in independent claim 14.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention, as recited in independent claim 14, is patentably defined over the cited art.

Dependent claim 19 also should be deemed allowable, in its own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in addition to those recited in independent claim 14. Further individual consideration of this dependent claim is requested.

Applicants further submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steven E. Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

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